

CITY CHIMES.

At the last meeting of the Institute of Science, held on Monday evening two very interesting papers were read. The first paper was by Mr. H. S. McKay, who dealt with Nova Scotian gold districts, and the other was on Nova Scotian Zoology, by Mr. Harry Piers, Assistant Legislative Librarian. The author was indisposed on that evening, and in his absence the paper was read by Dr. MacGregor. A good deal of valuable natural history work is being done by Mr. Piers, who is an enthusiast on the subject. Discussions, as usual, followed the reading of the papers.

That the Street Railway Company has decided to give up the issuing of commutation tickets is a much regretted fact. The reason given for this movement is that nearly every day blank pieces of cardboard of the color and size of the tickets have been found in the fare boxes, showing that some persons were getting free rides. It is hard to imagine any soul so small, any man, woman or child, with such despicably mean motives, but it has been indisputably proven that our city contains more or less of these beings. The Street Railway offers for the small sum of five cents, or by commutation tickets for a trifle over four cents, a drive in their comfortable cars from Richmond to Inglis St., or from either extremity up the hills to the west end terminus at the corner of Cunard and Robie Sts. Surely all passengers may consider this fair compensation for the money expended, and if these ingenious people who have taken the trouble to counterfeit the tickets would turn their talents to honest work, perchance they might in time be able to buy a dollar's worth of genuine tickets, and thus have a right to the advantages of the tramway. However, since it has been discovered that we have in our midst some unscrupulous rogues, and since the Street Railway Company cannot detect these same rogues in the act of stealing, the public must bear the consequences. The tickets, besides being a saving of money to constant patrons of the cars, are a great convenience, and the expressions of regret at their discontinuance are loud and frequent. Could the Street Railway Company not adopt some plan by which it could accommodate its patrons and at the same time thwart the designs of the artful dodgers who have taken such mean advantage of the popular tickets? Many ways of doing this have been suggested, and we might mention what appeared to us a very easy solution to the difficulty, namely, to print the tickets on cardboard made and colored especially for the purpose, which it would be much more difficult to duplicate than were the plain white ones. Or perhaps it would be well to use a cardboard striped in color and printed on both sides. The driver of the car could then as quickly detect a counterfeit ticket as he could a piece of tin the size of a five cent piece if it were put in the fare box. We think the matter worthy of consideration, and feel sure our city and suburban readers will join in hoping that ere long the welcome announcement "24 tickets for one dollar" may be re-posted in our horse cars.

One of the most enjoyable concerts of the season was given in the lecture room of St. Andrew's Church on Tuesday evening. The programme consisted of vocal and instrumental music, and each number was well performed. Miss MacKenzie's song was very enjoyable, and Mrs. Percy Lear received an enthusiastic encore, to which she responded with a bright Scotch song entitled "Jamie Dear." Miss Bugh well deserved the encore accorded her rendition of "My Lady's Bower," and responded with "Going to Mark t." Miss Chamberlain's piano solo was very good and received a hearty encore. Messrs. Harrison and Heustis both sang well, and Mr. Huggins' flute solo was very pleasing. Mr. Thomas Payne sustained his enviable reputation as accompanist on this occasion, and the entertainment was unanimously declared a success.

The lecture room of the Y. M. C. A. was filled with an enthusiastic audience on Tuesday evening to hear the lecture on "Modern Uses of Electricity" by Mr. A. R. Cogswell, the popular superintendent of the Halifax Illuminating and Motor Company's works. Mr. Cogswell had on the table specimens of many electrical contrivances in actual operation, including dynamos, arc and incandescent lights, electric bells, telephone instruments, the new telephone fire alarm, electric fans and many other interesting inventions. The lecturer held the close attention of his hearers while in simple terms he explained the mechanism of these modern machinations and illustrated the many uses and possibilities of electricity. Mr. Cogswell well merited the vote of thanks, moved by Mr. A. H. MacKay and unanimously passed by the delighted audience at the close of the evening, for the instructive and thoroughly enjoyable two hours which had passed away so rapidly.

The congregation of Fort Massey church have lost the active services of their pastor, Rev. Dr. Burns, but the church does not propose to give him up entirely. The ill health which has necessitated Dr. Burns' retirement is much regretted by his many friends in Halifax, and the fact that his congregation has granted him a retiring allowance of \$500 a year, and the Presbytery has declared him pastor emeritus, thereby continuing his connection with the church, speaks volumes for the warm esteem in which Dr. Burns is held. The removal of the Reverend doctor and his family from our city to Scotland will be much regretted, for they are people who by their kindness, hospitality, charity, and entering into the active life of the place, have made their influence felt for good. The best wishes of their many friends will follow them to the old country.

"An ounce of prevention, &c." Do not neglect that cough! One bottle of *Pultner's Emulsion* (the cough medicine par excellence) taken now, may save you weeks of illness, and a long doctor's bill. Large bottle, only 50 cents.

Lovers of good music are promised a treat within the next few weeks. Bandmaster Hughes is making arrangements for a sacred concert to be given by the band of the Leicestershire Regiment in the Academy of Music during Lent, and the announcement that the "Stabat Mater" will be rendered by the full band of the regiment assures to all who may be fortunate enough to attend a delightful musical evening.

H. Price Webber's popular company opened a short engagement at the Lyceum theatre last evening when "Fanchon, the Cricket" was put on by the full company. The favorite actress, Miss Edwina Gray, is well supported and the season gives every promise of proving a success.

The concert to be given on Tuesday, 29th inst., under the auspices of the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor of Fort Massey church will without doubt be an enjoyable affair. Several favorite amateurs of the city are to take part.

The Rev. Thomas Fowler is to deliver a lecture in the school room of St. Matthews' church this evening in aid of the Building Fund of the W. C. T. U. Mr. Fowler has chosen for his subject "Bonnie Scotland—reminiscences and suggestions," and the popularity of the lecturer combined with the worthiness of the cause to which the proceeds will be devoted should draw a large audience. The bazaar to be given in aid of this same cause by the W. C. T. U. takes place on Thursday, the 31st inst., in Masonic Hall.

The reception given on Thursday evening of last week at the Church of England Institute by the Ladies Auxiliary of the Institute was the most successful ever held there. The city congregations were well represented and a large audience enjoyed the bountiful hospitality of the ladies. The guests were received by Mrs. W. C. Silver, Mrs. S. Fenn and Mrs. A. G. Hession, and after a half hour or so spent in conversation an excellent literary and musical programme was begun. Rev. W. B. King, Misses Black, Stubbing and Payzant took part, the violin solos by the latter young lady especially delighting all present. Dainty and delicious refreshments were served and the whole entertainment was decidedly enjoyable. The ladies of the Institute have every reason to feel highly gratified with the success of their efforts on this occasion. The next event of the winter course is the stereopticon entertainment which is to take place this evening in Orpheus Hall. Mr. Samuel Naylor will deliver his lecture entitled "English Scenery," which he illustrates with views of choice bits of English scenery, historical groups, etc., and an enjoyable and profitable evening may be anticipated.

The Almanac tells us that the first day of Spring is near at hand but the chilly weather we have had this week rendered it necessary to refer to zodiacal signs in order to feel assured of this fact. Genuine March winds with the mercury hovering near zero are far from agreeable and those who could stay within doors by cheerful firesides were the most highly favored. The Dartmouth lakes have been in good condition for skating, but they must needs be enthusiastic lovers of the exhilarating sport who brave the keen penetrating winds for the pleasure to be obtained from outdoor skating.

Yesterday was St. Patrick's Day, and the numerous sons of Old Ireland in our city observed the day devoted to the patron Saint in various ways. The attraction at the Academy of Music in the afternoon and evening was the performances by St. Patrick's Minstrel Combination in a complimentary benefit to Michael Higgins, one of the most popular and clever members of the organization. Another performance is to be given this evening, which will probably be well patronized.

The repetition of "School" at the Academy of Music on Monday evening was a decided success. The first presentation of this comedy was pronounced one of the best amateur performances ever given in Halifax, and the second effort of the talented ladies and gentlemen who formed the cast of the play was even more complete. The object of these performances is to obtain funds for the improvement of the Academy interior, and all patriotic citizens of Halifax, whether theatre-goers or not, will most surely rejoice that our Music Hall is to receive the much needed repairs for which it has waited so long.

An organ recital is announced to take place in St. George's church on Sunday afternoon at four o'clock. Miss Mary G. Brown, teacher of vocal culture and singing at Acadia Ladies Seminary, Wolfville, and Messrs. C. W. Dodwell, bass, and T. A. Cummings, tenor, will contribute sacred vocal music, which with the choice selections of organ music to be performed by Mr. W. J. Hutchins, organist of St. Paul's church, make up an attractive programme.

"True to Ould Ireland," an Irish drama, was performed on Wednesday evening and repeated last evening at St. Patrick's Hall by the Adelpheia Dramatic Club. Large audiences greeted the performers and showed their appreciation of the good acting by frequent applause. The performances were under the auspices of the I. O. O. F. of the city, the proceeds going to swell the building fund of their new temple on Buckingham St. This building is a credit to the various lodges of oddfellows in Halifax.

R. Bryce Gemmel, F. C. S. late Analyst, "Surgeon's Hall, Edinburgh," favors the K. D. C. Company with the following unsolicited certificate: "I have analyzed a sample of K. D. C. manufactured by the K. D. C. Company, of New Glasgow N. S., and have been unable to detect in it any ingredient of an injurious nature. The ingredients that are used in its preparation are pure and simple, and the compound is so prepared, that it will give ready relief to sufferers from indigestion."